WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A printing system for performing printing by a plurality of printers in response to print requests from a plurality of terminal devices connected via a network, comprising:

specifying means for specifying a terminal device, in which image information to be printed has been stored, in accordance with print requests from said plurality of terminal devices; and

first designating means for instructing a terminal device that has been specified by said specifying means to transfer the image information to a printer.

2. The system according to claim 1, further comprising second designating means for designating a printer that is to print image information;

wherein said first designating means instructs transfer of the image information in dependence upon mode of connection between the printer designated by said second designating means and the terminal device storing the image information.

3. The system according to claim 2, wherein said first designating means instructs transfer of the image information in dependence upon whether said terminal device and printer are connected locally or via a network.

4. The system according to claim 1, wherein said

~~specifying means includes a management database for~~

managing image information as image file names;

said specifying means specifying a terminal device, which is storing image information to be printed, based upon an image file name that has been registered in said management database.

5. The system according to claim 4, wherein the image file name is a combination of a unique file name in the terminal device storing the image information and an identifier of this terminal device.

6. The system according to claim 4, further comprising totalization means for totalizing statistical information based upon attribute information in said management database.

7. The system according to claim 6, wherein the attribute information includes information on identifiers, image file names, number of pages to be printed and printing date.

8. A method of controlling a printing system for performing printing by a plurality of printers in response to print requests from a plurality of terminal devices connected via a network, comprising:

a specifying step of specifying a terminal device, in which image information to be printed has been stored, in accordance with print requests from the plurality of terminal devices; and

a first designating step of instructing a terminal
device that has been specified at said specifying step
to transfer the image information to a printer.

9.   The method according to claim 8, further comprising

5   a second designating step of designating a printer that
is to print image information;

     wherein said first designating step instructs
transfer of the image information in dependence upon
mode of connection between the printer designated at

10   said second designating step and the terminal device
storing the image information.

10.   The method according to claim 9, wherein said first
designating step instructs transfer of the image
information in dependence upon whether said terminal

15   device and printer are connected locally or via a
network.

11.   The method according to claim 8, wherein said
specifying step specifies a terminal device, which is
storing image information to be printed, based upon an

20   image file name that has been registered in a management
database for managing image information as image file
names.

12.   The method according to claim 11, wherein the image
file name is a combination of a unique file name in the

25   terminal device storing the image information and an
identifier of this terminal device.

13. The method according to claim 11, further comprising a totalization step of totalizing statistical information based upon attribute information in said management database.

5 14. The method according to claim 13, wherein the attribute information includes information on identifiers, image file names, number of pages to be printed and printing date.

15. A computer-readable storage medium storing program
10 code of a method of controlling a printing system, comprising:

code of a specifying step of specifying a terminal device, in which image information to be printed has been stored, in accordance with print requests from a
15 plurality of terminal devices; and

a designating step of instructing a specified terminal device to transfer the image information to a printer.

16. A printing system having a plurality of image
20 storage devices connected via a network and a plurality of printers, said printing system comprising:

specifying means for specifying an image storage device, in which image information to be printed has been stored, in accordance with print requests from
25 terminal devices connected via the network; and

first designating means for instructing that the

image information, which has been stored in an image
storage device specified by said specifying means, is
transferred to a printer.

17. The system according to claim 16, further
comprising second designating means for designating a
printer that is to print image information;

wherein said first designating means instructs that
the image information be transferred to the printer
designated by said second designating means.

18. The system according to claim 17, wherein said
first designating means designates mode of transfer of
the image information in dependence upon whether said
image storage device and said printer are connected
locally or via a network.

19. The system according to claim 16, wherein said
specifying means includes a management database for
managing image information as image file names;

said specifying means specifying an image storage
device, which is storing image information to be
printed, based upon an image file name that has been
registered in said management database.

20. The system according to claim 19, wherein the image
file name is a combination of a unique file name in the
terminal device storing the image information and an
identifier of this terminal device.

21. The system according to claim 19, further

comprising totalization means for totalizing statistical

information based upon attribute information in said

management database.

22. The system according to claim 21, wherein the

5 attribute information includes information on

identifiers, image file names, number of pages to be

printed and printing date.

23. A method of controlling a printing system having a

plurality of image storage devices connected via a

10 network and a plurality of printers, said method

comprising:

a specifying step of specifying an image storage

device, in which image information to be printed has

been stored, in accordance with print requests from

15 terminal devices connected via the network; and

a first designating step of instructing that the

image information, which has been stored in an image

storage device specified at said specifying step, is

transferred to a printer.

20 24. The method according to claim 23, further

comprising a second designating step of designating a

printer that is to print image information;

wherein said first designating step instructs that

the image information be transferred to the printer

25 designated at said second designating step.

25. The method according to claim 24, wherein said

first designating step designates mode of transfer in dependence upon whether said image storage device and printer are connected locally or via a network.

26. The method according to claim 23, wherein said specifying step specifies an image storage device, which is storing image information to be printed, based upon an image file name that has been registered in a management database for managing image information as image file names.

27. The method according to claim 26, wherein the image file name is a combination of a unique file name in the terminal device storing the image information and an identifier of this terminal device.

28. The method according to claim 26, further comprising a totalization step of totalizing statistical information based upon attribute information in said management database.

29. The method according to claim 28, wherein the attribute information includes information on identifiers, image file names, number of pages to be printed and printing date.

30. A computer-readable storage medium storing program code of a method of controlling a printing system, comprising:

code of a specifying step of specifying an image storage device, in which image information to be printed

has been stored, in accordance with a print request from

a terminal device; and

    code of a designating step of instructing that the

image information, which has been stored in a specified

5 image storage device, be transferred to a printer.